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### Thomas Jefferson Genealogical Collection

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# **Collection Inventory for the Thomas Jefferson Genealogical Collection Coll. 117**

**Finding aid prepared by Karen L. Jefferson**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

March 21, 2014

Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University  
June 1980  
500 Howard Place, NW  
Washington, DC 20059  
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## Table of Contents

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<u>Summary Information</u> .....	3
<u>Scope Note</u> .....	4
<u>Collection Inventory</u> .....	5
<u>Series A: Correspondence</u> .....	5
<u>Series B: Articles about the Black Descendants of Thomas Jefferson</u> .....	5
<u>Series C: Photographs</u> .....	6

## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University
<b>Creator</b>	Jefferson, Thomas, 1743-1826
<b>Title</b>	Thomas Jefferson Genealogical Collection
<b>Date</b>	1948
<b>Extent</b>	28.0 Items
<b>Language</b>	English

## Scope Note

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The Thomas Jefferson Genealogical Collection was developed in 1948 as a result of correspondence between Pearl M. Graham and Lucy Williams. Ms. Graham was researching a project which involved tracing the ancestry of Blacks who claimed to be direct-descendants of Thomas Jefferson. In Lucy William's letters to Pearl Graham she relates the historical tradition of Sally Hemings and her offspring, fathered by Thomas Jefferson, indicating genealogical relationships up to her own generation.

The collection includes correspondence of Mrs. Dorothy Porter while assisting in the research and in acquiring the Jefferson mementoes donated by Mrs. Lucy Coles Williams. These mementoes which include a bronze, bell, a hand-carved cane, a platter, and a rolling Pin are stored in the vault.

There are 28 items in this collection. They include correspondence, articles about Black descendants of Thomas Jefferson, two photographs of the bronze bell, and one photo graph of Mary Frances C. Kenny, granddaughter of Thomas Jefferson.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University June 1980

**Series A: Correspondence**

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**Collection Inventory****Series A: Correspondence****Series Description**

Correspondence generated from the research project about Black descendants of Thomas Jefferson, and acquisition of the Jefferson mementoes.

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Graham, Pearl M. and Porter, Dorothy	1	1
Sadler, Bertha B. to Porter, Dorothy	1	2
Bullock, Charles H., Sr. to Graham, Pearl M.	1	3
Williams, Lucy Cole to Graham, Pearl M.	1	4

**Series B: Articles about the Black Descendants of Thomas Jefferson****Series Description**

Articles from periodicals by various authors

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
The Great Jefferson Controversy	1	5

**Series C: Photographs**

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The Great Jefferson Taboo	1	6
The myth of "Black Sally"	1	7
<b>Series C: Photographs</b>  <b>Series Description</b>  Photograph of Mary Coles Kenny, Black descendant of Jefferson; and a bronze bell (a Jefferson memento)		
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Mary Coles Kenny	1	8
Bronze Bell	1	9